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I am the Mother of a child with a neurological disorder and the Aunt/Guardian to a nephew who also has a neurological disorder. Both of these boys are prescribed medication so they can function and live a productive life to the best of their abilities. Having been the caretaker of both of these boys I would not want to explain to one of them that they were not eligible to receive services due to the type of neurological disorder they were diagnosed with. Both of these boys have been discriminated and stigmatized by friends, family, acquaintances, and now possible by our government. Or I should say only one of the boys will be as one is diagnosed with Bipolar and the other with Aspergers. Covering children with autism is good...covering all children with brain disorders would be better! The type of neurological disorder should not matter when it comes to parity. By limiting parity to just the autism spectrum is discriminating to all those that are diagnosed with other neurological disorders. This would be like telling a family that they can not use their insurance for the diagnoses of lung cancer, but if they are diagnosed with breast cancer you will be able to help them.

As a Mother it was devastating to learn my child was being diagnosed with a mental illness. But as a mother I wanted the best care for my son just as any other parent would want the best care for their child. However, what I did not realize at the time was that my private insurance would only cover 50% of the cost of my son's care. This was unbelievable to me that when my son harmed himself from suicide attempts that his medical care was covered 100% but the care for his mental illness was limited. The cost of one bill for my son's treatment was over \$40,000.00. Families should not be placed in situations where they may become homeless or have to give up custody of their children just to ensure that their child receives affordable mental health services.

Please do not discriminate the sons and daughters of Michigan citizens and pass bills SB 414, SB 415, and SB 981 to include all children with neurological disorders, not just a chosen few.